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Speech

Loyalists vs. Patriots: Both Sides of the Story

My objective is to make a Venn diagram comparing and contrasting Loyalists and Patriots during the American Revolution.

First of all, what is a Loyalist? A loyalist is a person who remained faithful to the British Empire during the American Revolution. Then what is a Patriot? A patriot is a person who rebelled against Britain during the American Revolution for independence.

Loyalists:

A lot of the Loyalist population was found in New York. They also lived in Pennsylvania, and the southern states, Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina, but there were hardly any at all in Virginia or New England. Most were wealthy, and most were government officials, merchants, or landowners. Loyalists were scared of a rebellion because they did not want to lose their jobs in the government and they did not want to lose their property. Many Loyalists were African American slaves owned by Patriots. They believed they would be freed if they took Britain’s side. Native Americans also joined the Loyalists because they believed the Patriots would take their land if they won the war.

Quakers were believed to be Loyalists because they did not fight, but the only reason Quakers didn’t fight was because it was against their religion.

Thomas Hutchinson:

A famous Loyalist was Thomas Hutchinson. Hutchinson was the son of a merchant and he was the last royal governor of Massachusetts. He felt that the Stamp Act should repeal, but the Patriots misunderstood him. They believed he had passed the law. So, in 1765, an angry mob burned his house in anger. The Hutchinson family was already despised by the Patriots because of their beliefs, and they received terrible punishment.

Patriots:

Most Patriots were colonists. Patriots believed that there was no other answer but independence. Patriots rebelled against Britain in many ways. A famous example of this is the Boston Tea Party. They also publicly humiliated Loyalists. A method they would use was called “tar and feathering”. This form of punishment was often used on tax collectors. The Loyalist would be stripped naked and shave their head, and then hot tar would be poured over them, and feathers would be shaken over them. Nonetheless, Patriots were most successful in finding support or persuading “fencesitters” to join their side.

Sons of Liberty:

The Sons of Liberty were a group of Patriots. Their goal was to earn independence from Britain. John Adams was the founder of this group. When the Stamp Act occurred, it angered the Patriots. They held protests against it, and it was finally repealed. Soon afterward, a tax called the Townshend Acts was passed. This taxed lead, glass, paper, tea, and paint. The Sons of Liberty planned a boycott to stop the Townhend Acts. When the tax wasn’t repealed, the protests started turning violent. This was how the Boston Massacre started.

Famous Patriots:

Some famous patriots were: George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Paul Revere, Ben Franklin, John Adams, and many more.

After the war:

After the American Revolution, Loyalists disappeared off the country. Some moved to Canada. As for the Patriots, they broke free from the British and earned their independence.